

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS OF DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
GENERAL

REF: A. USOECD 32179; ?. STATE 246008; C. ROME 13686

D. USOECD 31440

1. COUNCIL DEC 19 ACCEPTED SECGEN PROPOSALS FOR APPOINTMENTS
OF DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES GENERAL, WITH
PROVISION THAT CONSULTATION WILL BE HELD ON QUESTION OF
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES GENERAL AS A WHOLE.

2. REAPPOINTMENT OF PRESENT DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
ELDIN FOR TWO YEARS WAS NEVER IN QUESTION. COUNCIL
WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSED PROPOSAL ALSO FOR APPOINTMENT
FOR TWO-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1 OF FSO CHARLES
WOOTTON AS DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL.

3. REAPPOINTMENT OF ITALIAN ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL
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PAULUCCI FOR PERIOD OF 15 MONTHS WAS, HOWEVER, SUBJECT

TO LONG AND DIFFICULT DEBATE AND MUCH CORRIDOR DISCUSSION.
(APPOINTMENTS OF OTHER TWO ASSISTANT SECRETARIES GENERAL, OF
.K. AND GERMAN NATIONALITY, WERE NOT UP FOR RENEWAL.)

4. CANADIAN DELEGATE (TOWE) OPENED DEBATE BY POINTING OUT
(REF A) PREPONDERANCE OF EUROPEAN (SPECIFICALLY EC) NATIONALS
AMONG TOP POSITIONS OF OECD, IN SPITE OF NEW BALANCE OF
ORGANIZATION CREATED BY MEMBERSHIP NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.
TOWE STRONGLY SUPPORTED JAPANESE CANDIDATE FOR POSITION NOW
HELD BY PAULCCI. FURTHERMORE, HE PROPOSED THAT IN SELECTING
FOUR OF TOP POSITIONS SPECIAL CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN
TO INCLUDING ONE NATIONAL EACH FROM FRANCE (AS HOST COUNTRY),
EC, US, AND JAPAN, WHILE REAINING TOP POSITIONS WOULD BE
OCCUPIED WITHOUT REGARD TO NATIONALITY.

5. JAPANESE DELEGATE (YOSHINO) DESCRIBED HIGH QUALIFICATION
OF CANDIDATE HIS GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED. FOLLOWING TOW,
HE INDICATED BELIEF THAT SITUATION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
GENERAL SHOULD BE REVIEWED UNDER STIMULUS OF NEED FOR DECISION
BEFORE END OF CURRENT TERMS, DECEMBER 31.

6. SEVRAL DELEGATES, HOWEVER, INCLUDING BELGIAN, GERMAN,
AND BRITISH, AS WELL AS ITALIAN, SUPPORTED SEC GEN PROPOSAL
WITHOUT AMENDMENT, WHILE ONLY AUSTRALIAN SUPPORTED CANADIAN
AND JAPANESE DELS. SEVERAL COMPROMISE SOLUTIONS WERE PROPOSED,
ALL OF WHICH WERE UNACCEPTABLE TO ITALIANS. U.S.
DEL, FOLLOWING REF (A), DID NOT TAKE STAND FOR OR AGAINST
PAULUCCI REAPPOINTMENT, BUT HE STRONGLY SUPPORTED PROPOSAL
FOR EARLY REVIEW OF SITUATION, EMPHASIZED U.S. BELIEF INCLUSION
OF JAPANESE IN TOP OECD MANAGEMENT WARRANTED, AND INDICATED
PERSONAL BELIEF CANADIAN SUGGESTION WELL WORTH STUDYING.

7. ON BASIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE WILL INDEED BE SUCH
A REVIEW AS PROPOSED BY SEC GEN, AND IN ORDER TO BREAK
STALEMATE WHICH THREATENED TO PREVENT APPOINTMENTS OF DEPUTY
SECRETARIES GENERAL AS WELL AS THIRD ASSISTANT SEC GEN, AMB
YOSHINO VERY GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED DECISION ON REAPPOINTMENT
OF PAULUCCI.

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8. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH REVIEW SEC GEN INTENDS IS DESCRIBED
AS LIMITED TO ASSISTANT SEC GEN POSITIONS, IT IS LIKELY THAT
ALL TOP OECD MANAGEMENT WOULD BE AT LEAST TOUCHED UPON, AS
IMPLIED IN CANADIAN PROPOSAL. MISSION BELIEVES, HOWEVER,
FOR REASONS INDICATED IN REF (D), THAT IT WOULD BE IN
INTEREST OF ORGANIZATION AND U.S. FOR MEMBERS TO ENSURE
THAT REVIEW AND CONSULTATIONS PROPOSED BY SEC GEN TAKE PLACE
AND LEAD TO THOROUGH REEXAMINATION OF PRESENT APPOINTMENT

SYSTEM, WHICH HAS DISADVANTAGE OF RIGIDITY WITHOUT RELECT-
ING IN REASONABLE FASHION THE BALANCE AMONG MEMBER STATES.
WE FEEL CANADIAN PROPOSAL IS WORTH PURSUING, SINCE IT
PROVIDES LOGICAL DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN FOUR MEMBERS GIVEN
SPCIAL CONSIDERATION AND OTHERS. SUCH A SOLUTION WOULD,
OF COURSE, REQUIRE UNDERSTANDING AMONG EC-9 WHICH CANNOT BE
TAKEN FOR GRANTED.
ROGERS

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